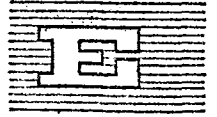


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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
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Item 26 of the provisional agenda

ADVISORY SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Report of the Secretary-General

I. DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES ADOPTED DURING 1979 THAT AFFECT THE ADVISORY SERVICES PROGRAMME IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

A. Commission on Human Rights (thirty-fifth session); Economic and Social Council (first regular session, 1979)

1. The Commission on Human Rights at its 1522nd meeting, on 14 March 1979, decided to postpone to its thirty-sixth session, consideration of the item on advisory services in the field of Human Rights.<sup>1/</sup> The report of the Secretary-General concerning this item, which was issued as document E/CN.4/1330, is therefore resubmitted to the Commission for its consideration at the current session.

2. At the same meeting, the Commission also recommended a draft resolution on the "Further promotion and encouragement of human rights and fundamental freedoms", <sup>2/</sup> for adoption by the Economic and Social Council. During its first regular session for 1979, the Council adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Commission as resolution 1979/36. Operative paragraph 11 of the resolution emphasized the value of the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights and reaffirmed that this programme should be maintained and developed.

B. General Assembly (thirty-fourth session)

3. The General Assembly in its resolution 34/230.A of 20 December 1979 appropriated funds for the biennium 1980-1981 for technical assistance programmes which included funds for the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights.

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<sup>1/</sup> See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1979, Supplement No.6 (E/1979/36), Chap. XXIV, sect. B, decision 15 (XXXV).

<sup>2/</sup> Ibid., Chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution III.

4. It will be recalled that the General Assembly at its thirty-third session adopted resolution 33/167 in which it requested once again that the Secretary-General, under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, give priority to the consideration, in regions where no regional commission in human rights exists, of seminars for the purpose of discussing the usefulness and advisability of the establishment of regional commissions for the promotion and protection of human rights and that at least one such seminar should be organized during 1979.

5. In response to a request contained in this resolution the Secretary-General prepared a report on its implementation (A/34/359 and Add.1) which was submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session. Following consideration of the report, the General Assembly adopted resolution 34/171 in which it noted with satisfaction that a United Nations Seminar on the Establishment of Regional Commissions on Human Rights with special reference to Africa was held at Monrovia, from 10 to 21 September 1979, which adopted the "Monrovia Proposals for the setting up of an African Commission on Human Rights" as well as other conclusions and recommendations, and expressed the hope that the recommendations of the Seminar would be given due consideration by the Governments and organizations concerned. It reiterated its appeal to States in areas where regional arrangements in the field of human rights did not yet exist to consider agreements with a view to the establishment within their respective regions of suitable regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights. The Secretary-General was once again requested, under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, to explore the possibility, with the States in the regions concerned, of holding a seminar as soon as possible for the purpose of discussing methods for the promotion and protection of human rights. He was further requested to report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session.

## II. SEMINARS

6. The seminar referred to in the preceding paragraph was held in 1979 under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights. The report of the seminar is issued as document ST/HR/SEA.A/5.

7. With regard to future seminars, the Secretary-General wishes to inform the Commission that at the invitation of the Government of the Netherlands a symposium on "The Role of the Police in the Protection of Human Rights" is scheduled to be held at The Hague from 14 to 25 April 1980. The symposium is organized on a regional basis and all members of the Economic Commission for Europe are invited to participate in the symposium. It should be noted that the cost for this symposium is entirely defrayed by the Government of the Netherlands.

8. At its thirty-fifth session the Commission adopted resolution 5 (XXXV), paragraph 8 of which recommended to the Economic and Social Council that a seminar be held in 1980, within the framework of the advisory services programme, on the effects of the existing unjust international economic order on the economies of the developing countries, and the obstacle that this represents for the implementation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, particularly the right to enjoy adequate standards of living as proclaimed in article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Economic and Social Council acted upon this recommendation in its decision 1979/30.

Subsequently, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General in its resolution 34/46, paragraph 10, to give through the advisory services programme in the field of human rights, priority to the holding in 1980 of this seminar, as already decided by the Economic and Social Council. Preparation for this seminar is now under way with an aim to hold it in the Fall of 1980.

### III. FELLOWSHIPS AND TRAINING COURSES

#### A. Fellowships: extent of participation in 1979 programme, nature of awards and programme for 1980

9. Under the terms of General Assembly resolution 926 (X), human rights fellowships are available to qualified candidates nominated by Member States who are planning to study any subject in the field of human rights which is of concern to the United Nations (as defined in United Nations covenants, declarations and resolutions with regard to universal respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms) provided, however, that the subject is not one that falls within the scope of other existing technical assistance programmes or one for which adequate advisory assistance is available through a specialized agency.

10. In the selection of candidates, preference is given to persons having direct responsibilities in the field of the implementation of human rights in their respective countries.

11. In 1979 the Secretary-General received 72 governmental nominations for individual human rights fellowships. The Secretary-General has attempted to ensure a broad distribution of the fellowships among the nationalities of the applicants. In 1979, with the financial resources available, recommendations were made for the award of 25 individual fellowships to candidates from 25 different countries (see annex).

12. Candidates nominated by Governments in 1979 continued to be of a high level as far as their qualifications were concerned. The recipients of fellowship awards included, in particular, government officials with responsibility for the administration of justice and for drafting legislation as well as officials of ministries of justice, education, foreign affairs and interior and of the police departments.

13. In 1980, the Secretary-General will continue to provide, as appropriate, human rights fellowships within the available financial resources.

#### B. Training courses

14. Owing to the limited funds available, no training course was held in 1979. Depending on the availability of funds, the Secretary-General will explore with interested Governments the possibility of organizing training courses on human rights in 1980 and future years in accordance with Commission on Human Rights resolution 17(XXIII) and Economic and Social Council resolution 1973/14.

### IV. ADVISORY SERVICES OF EXPERTS

15. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 926(X) the programme of advisory services also provides for the advisory services of experts in the field of human rights. Since the inception of the programme in 1956 only a few Governments have availed themselves of these expert services. The Secretary-General wishes to inform the Commission that recently an inquiry has been received from a Government concerning the availability of these expert services. The Secretary-General welcomes the interest expressed in these services and is pleased to confirm that, depending on the availability of funds, this component of the advisory services programme is still in existence.

Annex

## NAMES OF RECIPIENT COUNTRIES AND THEIR RESPECTIVE TOPICS OF STUDY

<u>Country</u>	<u>Topic of study</u>
Austria	The legal and political history of the International Covenant on Civil and Political rights
Barbados	Participation in local administration as a measure of promoting human rights
Botswana	Protection of human rights in the current penal and correctional concepts
Bulgaria	Protection of human rights in public international law
Cuba	The dissemination of information on Human Rights
Ecuador	The implementation of the international covenants on human rights
El Salvador	Formulation and implementation of economic and social rights on the basis of existing laws and instruments
Fiji	Protection of human rights and the activities of the human rights organizations
Gabon	Protection of the rights of the child, with special reference to the rights of children of refugees
Haiti	Measures to safeguard the human rights of refugees
Hungary	Protection of economic and social rights
India	Advancement of human rights in the formulation and implementation of economic and social legislation
Indonesia	Protection of human rights in the drafting and implementation of legislation with special reference to methods of implementation at the national level of international conventions on human rights with regard to both law and practice
Iran	Implementation of the International Covenants of Human Rights
Mali	Protection of human rights of immigrants and resident aliens
Mauritius	The protection of human rights in the administration of justice, with special reference to periods of emergency

<u>Country</u>	<u>Topic of study</u>
Niger	Implementation of the International Covenants on Human Rights
Peru	The promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms
Singapore	Protection of human rights in the administration of justice
Sri Lanka	Protection of human rights in the drafting and implementation of legislation with special reference to methods of implementation at the national level of international conventions on human rights with regard to both law and practice
United Kingdom	The institution of the Ombudsman in the developing countries
United Republic of Cameroon	Protection of human rights in the administration of justice
Uruguay	Rights of the child, with particular reference to the protection of the rights of children placed for adoption and of children born out of wedlock
Upper Volta	The implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
Yemen Arab Republic	Legal aid and legal advice provisions in civil and criminal courts